Pinus ponderosa / Rhus trilobata Shrubland (Local Assemblage)

COMMON NAME Ponderosa Pine / Three-leaved Sumac Shrubland

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENCE LEVEL Not Rated, Unique to Monument

USFS WETLAND SYSTEM Upland

RANGE
Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument
Ponderosa Pine / Three-leaved Sumac occurs on steep cinder slopes. This map class is unique and occurs within the project environs. It occurs on cinder cones east of HWY 89 and east of Lenox Park.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION
Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument
Only one relevé was sampled within the Ponderosa Pine / Three-leaved Sumac. It occurred at an elevation of 2,200m on steep slopes (27%) and cinder gravel.

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES
Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument

Stratum	Species
Tree canopy	*Pinus ponderosa*
Shrub	*Rhus trilobata*

ASSOCIATED SPECIES
Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument
Artemisia dracunculus, Ribes cereum

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION
Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument
Ponderosa Pine / Three-leaved Sumac had a total vegetation cover of 30%. The tree layer absolute cover was 5%, shrub layer 20%, and herbaceous layer 10%. Species richness was 24 species on one relevé.

The tree layer was sparse and consisted of a low cover (5%) of *Pinus ponderosa*. The shrub layer was the dominant layer with 17% cover of *Rhus trilobata*. The herbaceous layer was sparse.

MAP CLASSES
The proposed association Ponderosa Pine / Three-leaved Sumac is mapped as an inclusion of other surrounding map classes. This proposed association occurred mainly in areas less than 0.5 hectares (less than the minimum mapping unit) and therefore was not mapped as a unique map class.

COMMENTS
Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument
This vegetation type is known only from Sunset Crater NM. More inventory is needed to determine if it is more widespread and possibly develop a new NVC association.